

RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN STATE SUPERINTENDENT

October 17, 2013

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Local and Intermediate School Superintendents

Public School Academy Administrators

Nonpublic School Administrators

FROM: Mike Flanagan, State Superintendent

SUBJECT: Military Connected Children Data Collection

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is asking for your assistance in identifying children of military families. Frequent moves and stress from absent family members can affect these children's performance in school. We would like your help in identifying these children in order to increase awareness and to direct resources to their specific needs.

MDE requests that all school districts identify and report school children who have a parent or guardian serving in the military. This voluntary reporting process will be performed through the Michigan Electronic Grants System Plus (MEGS+). Applications are available now for electronic reporting in an Excel spreadsheet. The collection will occur now through December 31, 2013.

I also encourage you to review information on web-based resources that will help you to assist military connected children. Visit <a href="www.michigan.gov/mde">www.michigan.gov/mde</a>, choose the "Grants" tab on the left, then choose the "Military-Connected Children" link in the center of the page. The list of resources includes information on children's concerns, advice for educators on how to help, and other resources available to military families. The website also includes a map indicating the number of military connected children in each Michigan county.

If you have any questions about this endeavor, please contact Louis Burgess, Assistant Director, Office of School Support Services, at <a href="mailto:burgessl@michigan.gov">burgessl@michigan.gov</a> or 517-373-4337.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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